

E-01575A-09-0429

ORIGINAL

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM  
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMM



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UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Jenny Gomez

Phone: 7011 NOV -7 A 11: 28

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2014 - 119552

Date: 11/5/2014

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed  
N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By: David

Butler

Account Name: David Butler

Home: /

Street:

Work:

City: Sierra Vista

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: 85635

is:

Utility Company: Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Division: Electric

Contact Name:

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

DOCKET NO. E-01575A-09-0429

From: Util-PublicComment  
Sent: Monday, November 03, 2014 1:55 PM  
To: Util-PublicComment  
Cc:  
Subject: Public Comment

Arizona Corporation Commission  
DOCKETED

NOV - 7 2014

Name: David Butler  
Date: 11/3/2014  
Address:  
Phone:  
CityStateZip: Sierra Vista, AZ 85635  
Cell:  
Docket: Net Metering Tariff  
DocketNo: E-01575A-09-0429  
Utility: Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative  
Position: Con  
Email:

DOCKETED BY nr

Comments: In my letter filed in this docket on 12/24/09, I recommended two true-up months. As an expert energy modeler and building systems engineer, it's clear that a Fall true-up puts homes with heat pumps and electric furnaces at an economic disadvantage if the objective is net-zero or near-net-zero. This is true even for homes with higher cooling vs. heating loads due to the fact that PV output is so much lower in the fall-winter period than in spring-summer period. Locally, modern heat pumps are competitive with natural gas in terms of operating cost, and can cost several times less to operate than propane or electric furnaces. In fact, there are few climates in the country where heat pumps make more sense than in southern Arizona, despite a historically low adoption rate in SSVEC's territory. But this is changing as builders and homeowners become more informed, especially among homeowners who aspire to be net zero. It's not surprising that there's been some confusion about the

# ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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March true-up option. But this could be easily resolved proactively with better explanatory materials. I would be willing to prepare a brief marketing piece to this end, without charge. As noted in my previous letter, I plan to develop a net zero community in SSVEC's territory. Although the project has been delayed due to economic conditions in the real estate market, it's still a high priority and will move forward as soon as possible. It is my desire for this project to serve as a precedent in SE Arizona for cost-effective net-zero energy and low water consumption by design. Success will hopefully spur other developers and builders to follow suit. Termination of the March true-up option for new net metering customers would be an impediment to advanced housing projects like this. I urge the commission to deny SSVEC's request. The March true-up option is fair, harms no one, and any confusion can be proactively addressed through better communications. Respectfully, David Butler, president Optimal Building Systems, LLC Whetstone Green Development, LLC

\*End of Complaint\*

### Utilities' Response:

### Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Noted and filed for the record in Docket control.

\*End of Comments\*

Date Completed: 11/5/2014

Opinion No. 2014 - 119552

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